



STATE RETIREMENT AGENCY
120 East Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21202-6700

MARYLAND
STATE RETIREMENT
and PENSION SYSTEM

410-625-5555 • 1-800-492-5909
TTY Users: call via Maryland Relay
sra.maryland.gov

**Testimony in Support of House Bill 634
State Retirement and Pension System - Death Benefits for Children – Age
House Appropriations Committee
February 18, 2020
1:00 P.M.**

**Anne Gawthrop
Director of Legislative Affairs
State Retirement Agency**

The Board of Trustees for the State Retirement and Pension System wishes to express its support for House Bill 634, State Retirement and Pension System - Death Benefits for Children - Age. House Bill 634 is legislation sponsored by the Joint Committee on Pensions at the request of the Board.

Over the last several years, provisions of the State Personnel and Pensions Article have been amended to provide that children of deceased members and retirees who are receiving death benefits from one of the several systems may receive these benefits until the children reach age 26. Staff for the State Retirement Agency recently found provisions in the State Personnel and Pensions Article that were not included in past legislation and still provide that children of deceased members or retirees will cease receiving death benefits at age 18. House Bill 634 amends those provisions to increase the age to 26, consistent with other death benefit provisions throughout the State Personnel and Pensions Article.

Therefore, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would request a favorable report on House Bill 634.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Nancy K. Kopp, *Chairman*
David R. Brinkley
Eric D. Brotman
Jamaal R. A. Craddock

Kenneth B. Haines
David B. Hamilton

Linda A. Herman
Sheila Hill

F. Patrick Hughes
Charles W. Johnson

Peter Franchot, *Vice Chairman*
Richard E. Norman
Douglas Prouty
Michael J. Stafford, Jr.

R. Dean Kenderdine, *Secretary to the Board*